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	1. OPPOSITION STRE	ENGTH WO	ORRIES GOMUL	KA REGIME	
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		elements (Commun in foment	within the Polisist) Party (PZP) ing opposition d	ro-Soviet "Natolin" sh United Workers' PR) have succeeded luring the campaign ections of 20 Janu-	

lary.

Natolin elements have taken advantage of the chauvinist feelings of the population to stimulate antiminority, particularly anti-Semitic, sentiment. The increasing frequency and severity of incidents have placed the regime at a political disadvantage by forcing it to defend the minorities. A whispering campaign is also being conducted to defame regime leaders by charging them with Nazi collaboration or Stalinist associations.

The movement to urge voters to scratch from the single electoral list the names of regime leaders, PZPR candidates and prominent figures in favor of local candidates has gained momentum. Voters are also being encouraged to believe that since the election results will be rigged anyway they might as well abstain.

As a result of these tactics, party leaders	
are reportedly now afraid that a number of central committee	
members will not be elected and that in many regions party	
members will be defeated by nonparty candidates.	

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Comment The regime press has charged the opposition with attempting to sabotage the elections, and politburo member Morawski complained publicly

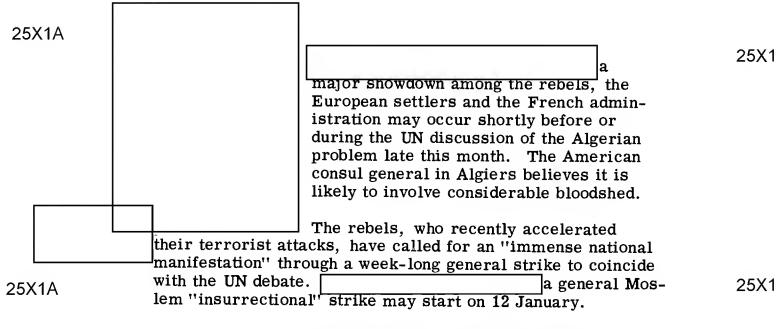
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on 2 January that those "negativists" within the party who oppose Poland's independent road to socialism "do not shrink from unworthy methods of struggle in order to maintain their position."

The press has also charged, in a thinly veiled reference to Poland's Communist neighbors, that "all those abroad" who are hostile to changes in Poland would not fail to take advantage of opportunities to "blacken Poland as an unenlightened backward country not deserving independence."

2. SHOWDOWN IN ALGERIA MAY BE NEAR



Simultaneously, tension is reported mounting at an alarming rate among European Algerians who fear abandonment by France. Indications are that French extremists are preparing to counter further Moslem unrest with a substantial show of their own force and that they may be supported by at least some elements of the French military which has largely taken over administrative operations in Algeria. This danger is pointed up by the arrest in late December of a French general charged with plotting to overthrow Minister Robert Lacoste and establish an Algerian republic controlled by the settlers.

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3. ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER ADAMANT ON GULF OF AQABA AND GAZA ISSUES

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	Israeli prime minister Ben-Gurion told Ambassador Lawson on 8 January that while Israel "has no territorial ambitions anywhere in Sinai," it "has to have" the Gulf of Aqaba waterway. Ben-Gurion sold.
	Gurion said, "No more will we be subject to Nasr's whims or charity. If he tries to re-establish the blockade, then
	we shall have to start shooting!

The prime minister reiterated that he cannot permit Egypt to regain authority in the Gaza strip and that he believes a UN force there could not control Egyptian fedayeen activity. He hinted that he would like to see Israeli police control maintained under UN supervision if this would satisfy world opinion.

Comment

The Israeli cabinet reportedly met on 10 January to consider its position on further withdrawal from Sinai. Israel's demands regarding Gaza and Aqaba will probably be supported by Britain and France. The British UN delegate told Ambassador Lodge on 9 January that "we would be worse off than before 29 October" if no changes are made in the Gaza and Agaba situations.

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The 62-year-old British chancellor of the exchequer, Harold Macmillan, who became prime minister on 10 January, is a forceful initiator of progressive

domestic policies and a champion of closer relations with the Continent. In view of his intimate association with the Suez intervention, however, Macmillan will inherit most of Eden's difficulties in trying to restore confidence in a Conservative British government.

The new prime minister is given the main credit for having persuaded the Conservative Party to endorse the government's decision to withdraw its forces from Egypt. Macmillan also probably reaped political advantage from the fairly widespread resentment within the party at R. A. Butler--the "heir apparent"--for his "fence sitting;" especially during Eden's absence in Jamaica. The speed with which Macmillan took measures to prevent a serious financial crisis after Suez received a favorable public reception.

Macmillan's first actio	on was to announce
that he would not call an early general ele	ection. The gov-
ernment's first chance to assess initial pu	iblic reaction to the
change in leadership, therefore, will com	e in three pending
by-elections in marginal constituencies.	

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ANNEX	25X1A	
Watch Report 336, 10 January 1957		
of the Intelligence Advisory Committee		
interrigence Advisory Committee		
Conclusions on Indications of Hostilit	ies	
On the basis of findings by its Watch Comm Intelligence Advisory Committee concludes that		
A. No Sino-Soviet Bloc country intends to initities against the continental US or its posse immediate future.		
B. No Sino-Soviet Bloc country intends to initiate hostilities against US forces abroad, US allies or areas peripheral to the Orbit in the immediate future.		
C. A deliberate initiation of hostilities in the is improbable in the immediate future.*	Middle East	
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